

CAPITOL COMMISSION [2499]

PHOTOGRAPHS, 1909-1917

1.0 cu. ft.

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature of 1909 enacted four Capitol Building bills which were approved by the governor on the 11th day of March, 1909. One of these bills, designated Chapter 64 of the Laws of Utah, created a Capitol Commission consisting of seven members including: the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and four members to be appointed by the Governor. The other three bills, Chapters 65, 66, and 67, provided for funds to meet the cost of the building not to exceed \$2,500,000.00. Members of the commission were Governor William Spry, Secretary of State C.S. Tingey, Attorney General A.R. Barnes, John Dern, C.E. Loose, M.S. Browning, and John Henry Smith. The Commission was ". . . authorized, empowered and directed to cause a suitable design, together with plans and Specifications . . . to be prepared for the erection of a State Capitol upon the Capitol grounds in Salt Lake City" (Laws of Utah, 1909, Chapter 64, Section 4).

This series contains photographs which functioned as documentation of the work completed by the Capitol Commission. The majority of the series contains pictures of the finished capitol building, ground breaking ceremony, initial excavation of the construction site, and individuals involved in the construction process. The collection also holds a unique commemorative photograph album produced by Shipler's Commercial Photographs of Salt Lake City which was presented to commission members. The album documents the various phases of construction and construction details including cement, granite, and marble work, monoliths, interior details, phases of arch and dome construction, and numerous pictures from various angles of the exterior.

The contract for construction of the capitol was awarded to James Stewart and Company of Salt Lake City with ground breaking ceremonies on December 26, 1912 and construction commencing April 18, 1913. The cornerstone was laid by Governor William Spry on April 4, 1914 and the building completed in July 3, 1915.

ARRANGEMENT: Individual photographs in box two are arranged chronologically with the photograph album in box one arranged by page number.

RELATED RECORDS: Series 1132, CORRESPONDENCE, contains letters which discuss contractors and construction details captured in the photographs. Series 1133, CONTRACTS, are those with the companies seen doing the work in the photographs. NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, Series 11273, provide information on contractors whose work can be seen in the photographs. MINUTES, Series 11274, include discussions about construction details seen in the photographs. CAPITOL COMMISSION RECORDS, series 11272, hold correspondence addressing the various stages of construction.

PROCESSING NOTE: These records were transferred to the Utah State Archives in 1958 and processed October 1992 by Ken Williams. Individual photographs have been placed in special photograph folders and the photograph album stored in a flat container.

CONTAINER LIST

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Completed south elevation, [1915], p. 1.
1	1	Interior, [1915], p. 2.
1	1	Interior stairway, [1915], p. 3.
1	1	Interior view from third floor, [1915], p. 4.
1	1	House chambers, [1915], p. 5.
1	1	Senate chambers, [1915], p. 6.
1	1	Gold room, [1915], p. 7.
1	1	Ground breaking, Dec. 26, 1912, p. 8.
1	1	Excavation, Apr. 1, 1913, p. 9.
1	1	View of the construction site, Apr. 1, 1913, p. 10.
1	1	Footings and foundation, May 21, 1913, p. 11.
1	1	Railway, June 25, 1913, p. 12.
1	1	Southern view of the construction site, Apr. 26, 1913, p. 13.
1	1	Footings and foundation, May 15, 1913, p. 14.
1	1	First floor, footings, and foundation, June 16, 1913, p. 15.
1	1	Second floor, Aug. 16, 1913, p. 16.
1	1	South East corner of second floor, Aug. 30, 1913, p. 17.
1	1	South front, Sept. 20, 1913, p. 18.
1	1	South front view of third floor, Oct. 18, 1913, p. 19.
1	1	South front view of fourth floor, Nov. 8, 1913, p. 20.
1	1	Early phase of roof construction, Dec. 13, 1913, p. 21.
1	1	Early phase of dome construction, Jan. 17, 1914, p.

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1	1	Second floor looking East from the center of the building, Nov. 29, 1913, p. 24.
1	1	Interior view of concrete reinforcement, Dec. 18, 1913, p. 25.
1	1	Interior view of arch-way forms, Dec. 6, 1913, p. 26.
1	1	Interior view of arch-way with forms removed, Feb. 14, 1914, p. 27.
1	1	View from beneath arch, Apr. 8, 1914, p. 28.
1	1	Outside view of dome, June 16, 1914, p. 29.
1	1	First floor corridor looking West, July 3, 1914, p. 30.
1	1	Close up view of first floor exterior stone work, Feb. 14, 1914, p. 31.
1	1	View from South West corner, Apr. 18, 1914, p. 32.
1	1	View from South West corner, May 9, 1914, p. 33.
1	1	View from South West corner, May 25, 1914, p. 34.
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1	1	View of unfinished south stairs, Apr. 4, 1914, p. 51.
1	1	Capitol Commission and other officials on unfinished south steps, Apr. 4, 1914, p. 52.
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2	1	[Ground breaking ceremony, Dec. 26, 1912.]
2	2	[Ground breaking ceremony, Dec. 26, 1912.]
2	3	[Ground breaking ceremony, Dec. 26, 1912.]
2	4	[Ground breaking ceremony, Dec. 26, 1912.]
2	5	[Ground breaking ceremony, Dec. 26, 1912.]
2	6	[Ground breaking ceremony, Dec. 26, 1912.]
2	7	View of footings and first floor, [June 16, 1913].

Box	Folder	Description
2	8	Second and third floor, Sept. 20, 1913.
2	9	Capitol Commission and other officials on unfinished south steps, Apr. 4, 1914.
2	10	Exterior view, June 16, 1914.
2	11	Exterior view, Aug. 5, 1914.
2	12	View of completed building from the South East, June 30, 1915.
2	13	Completed front elevation, [1917].
2	14	View of completed building from State Street looking North, [1917].